Message Text

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R 010800Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9709

CONFIDENTIAL BELGRADE 1203

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MPOL YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV MILITARY VISITS

- 1. DURING CONVERSATION FEB 25 POLCOUNS PRESSED STARCEVIC FOR GOY RESPONSE RE GENERAL POTOCAR VISIT INVITATION. STARCEVIC SAID POTOCAR'S SCHEDULE FOR YEAR FILLED AND UNLIKELY HE CAN TRAVEL TO STATES BUT THAT (AIR FORCE COMMANDER) CEMALOVIC "WILL BE GOING".
- 2. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND POTOCAR SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS BUSY, THIS IS FIRST WE'VE HEARD OF HIS INABILITY TO ACCEPT INVITATION FOR THIS YEAR. ALSO FIRST EMBASSY HAS HEARD THAT CEMALOVIC HAS BEEN INVITED VICE POTOCAR.
- 3. PART OF OUR DIFFICULTY IN DEALING WITH YUGOSLAV MILITARY HERE IS THEIR SECRETIVENESS. WOULD HOPE THAT DOD IS NOT IMPLICITLY SUPPORTIVE OF THIS ATTITUDE BY DEALING WITH YUGOSLAV EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND NOT KEEPING EMBASSY

BELGRADE INFORMED AT SAME TIME. IF POTOCAR UNABLE TO ACCEPT, CEMALOVIC MORE THAN ADEQUATE SUBSTITUTE. CONFIDENTIAL

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HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IF FIRST WE WERE ASKED TO COMMENT ON ADVISABILITY SUCH AN INVITATION, THEN INFORMED THAT USG PREPARED TO EXTEND INVIATION, AND FINALLY THAT WE BE PURVEYOR OF INVITATION TO GOY. YORK

	Margarat D. Crafold	Declaration / Palaced	LIS Donartment of State	EO Systematic Povicy	22 May 2000
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